

## **SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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**BULLETIN NOVEMBER 8, 2009**

### **NOVEMBER 8**

**22nd Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 5)  
Archangel Michael and All Bodiless Hosts**

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Church School; Teen Class

Coffee Hour

12:00p.m. Movie: *Apostolic Fathers: Handing On The Faith*

### **NOVEMBER 10**

7:30p.m. Movie: *Apostolic Fathers: Handing On the Faith*

### **NOVEMBER 11**

6:30p.m. Compline

7-8:00p.m. Informal Conversations and Apple Cider at Rectory

### **NOVEMBER 13**

**St. John Chrysostom**

9:30a.m. Akathist to St. John Chrysostom

7:00p.m. Memorial Service for (+) Peter Chabra

### **NOVEMBER 14**

9:30a.m. Akathist; Confessions

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

### **NOVEMBER 15**

**23rd Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 6)**

**St. Paisius of Moldavia**

**Beginning of 40 Day Nativity Fast**

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Church School; Coffee Hour

### **Fasting Days**

Wednesday, November 11

Friday, November 13 *Fish, wine & oil*



**About the Holy Angels**

**Q. In the Creed what is meant by Heaven?**

**A.** The invisible part of God's creation, that is the angels, who are invisible spirits and whose number is countless.

**Q. Are angels similar to men?**

**A.** Yes, like men, angels are individuals, with intelligence, feelings, power and a personal name. And like men, they find their happiness in God.

**Q. In what do angels differ from men?**

**A.** The angels are bodiless and deathless.

**Q. What are guardian angels?**

**A.** Guardian angels are those angels who are attached to every man for guidance and protection. There are also guardian angels for nations.

**Q. Are all angels equal?**

**A.** All the angels are of the same nature but they are different in glory, power and action. There are nine known angelic orders: Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim, Dominions, Virtues, Powers, Principalities, Archangels and Angels.

### **Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!**

Nov. 26,	40th	Day for Mary Holovach
Nov. 08,	1928	Anna Barna
Nov. 08,	2005	Anna Albanese
Nov. 09,	1916	Matthew Mukhevich
Nov. 09,	1977	Philip Bukraba
Nov. 10,	1918	Maria Ishchuk
Nov. 10,	1921	Julia Bushinsky
Nov. 10,	1960	Alexandria Kulina
Nov. 10,	1969	John Buday
Nov. 12,	1916	Peter Kliaga
Nov. 12,	2004	Olga Skopak
Nov. 13,	1963	Peter Chabra

### **Bake Sale**

Netted \$147.50 for the benefit of the Church School. Thanks for your participation!

### **Community Nativity Greeting (\$10)**

This December our parish will send a community Nativity Greeting to our entire mailing list of members and friends. Please return your name list by Dec. 1st. Extra envelopes & list attachments may be found on the vestibule stand. Funds will be earmarked for St. Philaret Society Charities.

### **November Movie Feature**

*"The Apostolic Fathers: Handing on the Faith,"*

This film explores the Early Fathers of the Church that were born into a pagan world and how they blazed a new trail to follow Jesus Christ. Retrace the steps of the Fathers through the Holy Land, Turkey, France and Italy. In one remarkable adventure we will find history, biblical study and apologetics. The lives and teachings of Ss. Ignatius of Antioch, Polycarp of Smyrna, Clement of Rome and Justin Martyr are manifested.

First Showing: Sunday, Nov. 8 12:00p.m.

Second Showing: Tuesday, Nov. 10 7:30p.m.

Bring someone with you!

### **Informal Conversation & Apple Cider**

On Wednesday evenings, Nov. 11 & 18 from 7-8p.m. we will gather at the rectory for an hour of conversation and abiding in apple cider. Want to talk, or just listen or just drink? You are welcome!

### **The Nativity 40 Day Lent**

Begins November 15th, Sunday and is observed to the Nativity Feast, Dec. 25th. A Fast is observed from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil. Your parish wall calendar indicates fast modifications. Start cleaning the refrigerator.

### **Parish Council Mtg. - Thursday, Nov. 19 7:00p.m. - Parishioners Invited**

This important meeting will review a proposed budget for 2010, capital improvements, council membership, and agenda for 2010 Annual Meeting scheduled for February 7, 2010.

### **IRA Benefit of Matching Funds for 2009**

As per decision of the 2008 Annual parish Meeting, the Parish Council invites matching contributions for the Rector's Retirement Account. The Parish will match up to \$2,500 earmarked monies. Any amount may be contributed. For more information speak with the Treasurer, Daniel Torrisi. If using an offering envelope, please mark it "IRA contribution."

### **Namesday Greetings**

St. Michael/Nov. 8th: Michael Warin, Jerry Michael Cirka;

St. Nectarios/Nov. 9th: Nectarios Parsells;

St. Vincent/Nov. 11th: Vincent Asaro; Many Blessed Years!

### **Remember in Prayer**

Theodora Combs, Mary Rosocha, Charles Kachek, Tatiana Onuschak, Atopere Filippini, and others needful of communal prayers.

### **Offerings for the Week of November 8**

Olive Oil - in memory of Vaschen and Emilia; in memory of Michael and Justina; in memory of Joan;

Wine - in honor of St. Nectarios and health of Nectarios; for the protection, salvation and health of Gabriela-Antoaneta (namesday).

### **Mary Holovach House For Sale**

504 Washington Ave, Manville.



## ***Up-date from Fr. Joseph McCartney Family***

Dear Fr. James and Friends, ***At St. Tikhon's Seminary – November 2009***

Glory to Jesus Christ! It is hard to believe that we have begun our 5<sup>th</sup> and final year at St. Tikhon's Seminary. The past four years have gone by so quickly, and have been full of both hardship and great blessings. Our family will be very sad to leave St. Tikhons when the school year is through, but we are excited about going out into the world to do what we've been preparing for here. We have no idea yet where God wants us when we are done with seminary, we pray that we do just that, and end up where He wants us.

Our children, Anna, Sarah and Justin are doing very well and continue to be our greatest joys. Anna turned 9 this summer and just started the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Her favorite subject is still art, but she excels in all of the subjects. She also grew about 2 shoe sizes over the summer! Sarah is almost 6 and started kindergarten. She's doing a great job and is looking forward to becoming a daisy scout, as her big sister will be a junior girl scout. Sarah loves to twirl and run all the time! And our little Justin, who just turned 2 this summer, is a whopping 37 lbs! His doctor calls him a "chunka munka" every time she sees him. He has become so vocal, which makes us smile every day. It's amazing to think that when we came to seminary Anna was just 5, Sarah was almost 2, and Justin wasn't even a thought!

I continue to work at St. Tikhons' Bookstore as manager, which keeps me very busy. This summer I was blessed to do my required internship at the Monastery church, so that I could stay and work at the bookstore during the summer also. I was able to go to the daily services and serve very often. I also got the opportunity to serve Vespers at the local nursing home and to take Holy Communion to people who cannot make it to church, each week. I enjoyed my internship very much and feel like I learned so much that will help me as I go out into a parish. I will assume a lot of the same responsibility even with the school year starting but luckily, this being my last year in school, I have a lot fewer classes, and can get my work done. Hopefully I can squeeze in some time to work on my thesis project before I graduate, too.

I say this with each letter, but hope that you know it is always with the deepest sincerity, we are so thankful for your support in our being here. We have been blessed by the generosity of both strangers and friends for the past 4 years. That generosity has been our saving grace. We truly could not make it without your help. We only hope that when we leave and go out into a parish, we can pay it forward to others in need and spread the generosity you've shown to us, on to others.

As we go through this last year, the greatest gift you can give is your prayers for our family. A big part of getting through seminary has been learning how to truly have faith that God will provide. And your help has often times been an answer to our prayers and a confirmation of God's love and mercy. We can't thank you enough for your help in our final year of school. Your parish continues to be in our prayers.

Fr. Joseph, Maura, Anna, Sarah and Justin

## The Blame Game

Fr. George Morelli

*Chaplain's Corner Short essays written for the La Jolla Veteran's Hospital newsletter in La Jolla, California*

**D**o you notice that many times when looking for the causes of unhappiness, people frequently believe it is other individuals or external events that make them distressed? The idea is carried around that if these "outside forces," as psychologist Albert Ellis (1962) calls them, were different, all their problems would go away and they would not be so miserable. Accompanying this outlook is the idea that, because it is just these nefarious persons or events over which they have no control which produce their wretchedness, they cannot help but be upset. Instead of working at the problem they are capable of solving, or devolving meaning in what they are able to accomplish, they feel they are justified in wallowing in their misery.

Obviously there are events that are realistically hurtful. Someone in the military who is permanently injured in battle, or a civilian who suffers lasting physical debilitation in an accident certainly are two common examples. In such cases there are two options, accept, but not condone, the untoward injury-causing event move on coping with the situation and creating a meaningful life in the face of the injury, or do as many do with non-realistic events, wallow in misery.

Even in cases of realistic harm, however, acceptance of the event and then finding meaning in the rest of life is still the better option than indulging in sorrow. Events based on reality cannot be changed. Reactions based on erroneous interpretations of these events and the blaming of others, can be changed. It is better to have one problem instead of two. The second problem is something that can be eliminated. It is a matter of focus. One can focus and bemoan on what one has realistically lost or focus on what resources and skills one now has and which can be used in some meaningful way. (Morelli, 2006).

Furthermore we can follow the counsel found in the Talmud: "Improve yourself, and only afterwards, try to improve others." (<http://www.wisdomofjudaism.org/samplechapters2.html>)

We can recall the words of Jesus to His disciples on the deleterious effects of useless regret: "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day. (Mt 6: 34). This is to say, deal with the real problem, do not be deflected by placing blame on others or being distracted by what is to come. Do not make excuses. Jesus was disapproving of those who made excuses. St. Luke recounts Jesus' parable of the Banquet Feast. The response of those invited to the banquet: "But they all alike began to make excuses... I pray you, have me excused." (Lk 14: 18) The consequences for making excuses is spiritually unfavorable. Jesus continues: "For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet" (Luke 14: 24).

The Holy Fathers of the Eastern Church understood the words of Jesus in just this way. St. John of the Ladder (579 AD-649 AD), (1982) writes: "Fear is danger tasted in advance, a quiver as the heart takes fright before unnamed calamity. Fear is a loss of assurance." St. Maximus the Confessor (580 - 662 AD) likewise had a perspicacious view of not dealing with problems and being distracted by other events. He tells us "...an evil which is expected in the future is called fear, and one which is experienced in the present is called distress... [one striving to be a good Christian], on the other hand remains dispassionate in the face of such evils, since he has united himself with God and is detached from all that happens in this present life." (Philokalia II). Elsewhere, St. Maximus points out, such dispassion allows one to focus on one's true realistic work. Instead of playing the blame game we can, along with the apostle St. James, rely on God and let this assurance be "...completed by works..." (James 2:22).

